

Andrew Jackson to Andrew Jackson, Jr., December 27, 1839, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

class=MsoNormal>TO ANDREW JACKSON, JR.

Mr. Barnett's, seven miles from Smithland, 1 December 27, 1839.

1 Smithland, Ky., where the Cumberland runs into the Ohio.

Dear Andrew, We arrived here this evening at 2 p.m. and expect to go on board our boat tomorrow morning, without crossing to Smith Land. We have been much favored, and have had comfortable Lodgings every night, and I have thus far stood the Journey much better than I expected. We, the first day travelled 29 miles, the 2 forty, yesterday thirty nine and to day 27, each day without going out of the carriage or stopping from morning until we reached our nights stage. We have had rough roads, and now the ground covered with snow. I am thus particular, knowing how anxious you and Sarah will be, to hear from me.

We hope to be at Memphis on the first day of January, where I shall endeavour to see Albert Ward, which if I do, I will endeavour to have a full security for you and Mr. Dodson also, indemnity for Martha. from Memphis I will endeavor to write you.

My dear Andrew, I do hope that the two debts, one to tribute and west of \$200, and to the shewman of one hundred and thirty eight dollars, to be paid out of my bill on my cotton, with the \$3,000 borrowed from Mr. Wm. Nicol subject to your order, will meet all your debts, and mine, in Nashville and leave a sum to pay up the ballance of your note and ours in the planters Bank. it will take oeconomy and industry to meet all our responsibilities. You must keep in view my debt to Judg Catrons of \$850. I name this, as you know, that out of the cotton from the Hermitage from the drafts upon it, that

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debt cannot be paid, therefore, out of the debts due from Nusom, and Cheatam, this debt and the one to Mr. West, for the Piano, must be paid. As I passed thro Turnersville I made enquiry as to the circumstances of Cheatam, and was informed that he owns a tract of Land and seven or eight valuable negroes. You must go over to court, have judgt. against him, issue execution and have it Levied upon his property and if he will not pay the debt, have the negroes sold and the mony paid, and attend and have the debt collected from Mr. Nusom. I repeat that it will take industry and oeconomy to get clear of debt, but I hope, with the cotton at your plaice on the Mississippi we will be able to clear ourselves of debt and be freemen once more, when I hope you will thereafter my dear son be carefull of running in debt again for property, not necessary or profitable.

Our good friend Mr. Hough has been good enough to say that he will by his return coach take up two and perhaps three rolls of bailing linnen. I will direct it to be left at Mr. Nichols. Send for it and if possible have all our cotton shipped on board the Randolph. Capt. Miller will send up a small boat for it the first rise of water. if it could reach Neworleans before I leave there I could have it sold to neat 10 cents I expect. I will write you again from Memphis. I will take some pork 0070 46 for the hands below from Smithland, and hope you will have your Boat ready by the first rise.

Present my kind salutations to my dear sarah, and kiss the dear little ones for me and to Mrs. Adams and hers, keep in good spirits, and I hope to live to free you from debt, and believe me yours affectionately